

Weekly Status and Information Report: Week of September 26-30, 2011

City Phone Problems: Some City of Takoma Park phone lines are not working properly. If you call an office and receive a continuous busy signal, please call 301-891-7100 and request to be transferred. The problem is affecting numbers in the following offices: City Manager, City Clerk, Housing and Community Development, Finance, Library, Information Systems, Recreation, and Communications. All Police Department and Public Works numbers are working normally. We apologize for the inconvenience and hope that our provider will resolve the problem soon. *(City Clerk)*

Nominating Caucus on Tuesday: City residents will nominate candidates for Mayor and City Council on Tuesday, October 4. The meeting is open to all, but only registered Takoma Park voters may participate. For complete information about the caucus, see links on the City's main page at www.takomaparkmd.gov. General information for candidates is available at: <http://takomaparkmd.gov/clerk/election/2011/candidates/>. Contact the City Clerk for additional information at 301-891-7267 or jessiec@takomagov.org. *(City Clerk)*

Voter Registration Deadline Approaches (October 10): To vote in the election on November 8, a voter must be a qualified voter of the City of Takoma Park and must have resided within the corporate limits of the City for 30 days immediately preceding the election. The voter registration cut-off date is October 10. Changes of address must also be filed by this date. Voter registration forms or change of address forms for both U.S. citizen voters and non-citizen voters are available from the City Clerk's Office. Contact jessiec@takomagov.org or 301-891-7267 for additional information.

Official City Meetings Scheduled the Week of October 3, 2011:

- City Council meeting, Monday, October 3, 7:30 p.m. in the Auditorium
 - Nominating Caucus, Tuesday, October 4, 7:30 p.m. in the Auditorium
 - Board of Elections meeting, Wednesday, October 5, 7 p.m. in the Council Conference Room
- All meetings are held in the Community Center and open to the public unless noted otherwise. Contact JessieC@takomagov.org to check for cancellations or for additional information. *(City Clerk)*

Street Festival on Sunday: The Takoma Park Street Festival will be held in Old Town on Sunday, October 2, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., rain or shine. Look for the City Recreation Department in the kids section staffing the basketball carnival game and providing information about Recreation programs. The Police Department, the Emergency Preparedness Committee and the Tree Commission will be at the festival as well. CityTV will be on hand to video festival highlights. *(City Clerk)*

Community Read Out: Maryland Sen. Jamie Raskin will be among the readers tomorrow, Sat. Oct. 1, at our second annual Community Read Out. Our program, celebrating Banned Books Week, will take place from 10 - 11:45 a.m. in the Community Center Auditorium. Sen. Raskin will read from "The Phantom Tollbooth;" others will read from "Bridge to Terebithia," "Sylvester and the Magic Pebble," and other children's novels and picture books. This great family event will conclude with a free pizza party in the Azalea Room at noon for all attendees.

Registration is encouraged; to register, go to www.takomapark.info/library/registration.html.
(Library)

Sculptures Installed: Three "tree" sculptures were installed at entrances to Takoma-Piney Branch Park on Thursday. One of the 20-foot silver and prism sculptures is at the Darwin Avenue entrance to the park and two of the sculptures function as an archway at the Grant Avenue entrance. The sculptures have been designed by Judy Sutton Moore, an artist from nearby Silver Spring. Takoma-Piney Branch Park is in the midst of a large renovation project. If the weather is good (a big IF, given our recent history), the project may be completed as early as the end of December of this year. Otherwise, the renovation work should be completed by April 2012. While the park is still closed to visitors, the sculptures are visible--stop by and take a look! (Deputy City Manager)

Bedtime Stories: Our monthly Bedtime Stories program for babies, toddlers, preschoolers and their grown-ups will take place on Monday, Oct. 3 at 7 p.m. All are welcome to this program of songs, rhymes and stories. No registration required. (Library)

Comics Jam: Come read comics on the big screen with our comics guru, Library Assistant Dave Burbank, on Tuesday, Oct. 4 at 4 p.m. The hour-long program will conclude with Dave taking "drawing requests" from attendees, who can watch him complete the drawings via the big screen. No registration required. (Library)

College Bound/Community College Option: Camille Scott of Montgomery College will talk about programs at Montgomery College and the community college option in general on Tuesday, Oct. 4 at 7 p.m. All are welcome to this free event, but please register so we can be sure to have enough chairs out for everyone. To register, go to www.takomapark.info/library/registration.html. The College Bound series will conclude on Tuesday, Oct. 11 at 7 p.m. with a program on the college selection process led by Dr. Lori Potts Dupre. (Library)

"Big Book" Group: The Friends of the Library's "Big Book" group will meet on Wednesday, Oct. 5 at 7:30 p.m. for the first of four discussions about "Daniel Martin," a novel by John Fowles. All are welcome for this introductory program, led by Friends' member Dr. Kelly Cresap. (Library)

Takoma/Langley Crossroads Urban Design Guidelines Vote Oct. 6 (Ward 6): The Planning Board will be voting on the Planning Department draft of Urban Design Guidelines at the Thursday, October 6 meeting in the morning. The guidelines will assist in implementing the Takoma/Langley Crossroads Sector Plan. To read the draft guidelines and the City's recommendation that the Board not adopt the guidelines, go to www.theNewAve.com. To express an opinion to the Planning Board, e-mail MCP-Chair@mncppc-mc.org (note the Planning Board requests testimony at least 48 hours prior to the meeting). Sign up to speak at a meeting online by 4 p.m. on the day prior to the meeting. For more information, contact Ilona Blanchard at 301-891-7205 or ilonab@takomagov.org. (Housing and Community Development)

CR Zones at County Council (Ward 5 & 6): City Staff and the Mayor attended the County

Council discussion of the CR Zones on Tuesday. The County Council indicated an interest only applying the zones to new properties if recommended in an adopted Master Plan or Sector Plan. They may be discussing alterations to the use list and the public benefits list (a list of items a developer must do in order to obtain full build out). The next meeting will be in Rockville at 2 p.m. on Tuesday, October 4. (*Housing and Community Development*)

Annual Holiday Art Sale – Call for Vendors: Are you interested in participating in the sixth annual Holiday Art Sale? The sale will be held on Saturday, December 10, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., at the Takoma Park Community Center. The work included in the juried sale must be created and produced by the artist. Deadline for applying for a table is Friday, November 18. Application forms will be available online next week at www.takomaparkmd.gov. (*Housing and Community Development*)

Galleries at the Takoma Park Community Center – Exhibits Opportunity: The Arts and Humanities Commission is seeking proposals from individual artists or groups of artists or artisans interested in exhibiting their work in the Galleries at the Takoma Park Community Center. For more information on how to submit your work for consideration, please contact the Exhibits Director at ExhibitsDirector@takomagov.org / 301-891-7645. (*Housing and Community Development*)

We are Takoma – Call for Proposals: The Arts and Humanities Commission is seeking programming proposals for its 2012 “We are Takoma” series. The program is designed to provide a diverse offering of free cultural events to the public. Programming options are limited only by the size of the space, its availability and the technical demands of the event. For more information, please contact Sara Anne Daines at SaraD@takomagov.org / 301-891-7224. (*Housing and Community Development*)

Flag Football Program: The “Go Deep” flag football program began on Wednesday, September 29. Participants were split up into two teams (8 vs. 8) and played an exciting, down to the wire football game. The game was decided on a last second touchdown pass that broke the long standing 14-14 tie. All players enjoyed the fact that they were able to be a part of the action, as teamwork was the theme of the day. Program is held at Hodges Field (behind Takoma Park Elem.) on Wednesdays from 3:45 to 4:45 p.m. There are still a few spaces left for this program. For more information or to register, visit: <http://www.takomaparkmd.gov/recreation> or call 301-891-7284. (*Recreation*)

Outdoor Street Hockey: On Thursday, September 30, participants were able to face off for the first time as it was opening day for the outdoor street hockey program. Players were able to take part in several fast paced games, which allowed them to show off their many skills. The program is held on the blacktop next to the Takoma Park Community Center on Thursdays from 3:45 to 4:45 p.m. For more information or to register, visit: <http://www.takomaparkmd.gov/recreation> or call 301-891-7284. (*Recreation*)

Tai Chi Demonstration: On Monday, September 26th a Tai Chi demonstration was done by Kirk Talbott (Senior student of the late Robert W. Smith) at the Takoma Park Recreation Center. Tai Chi is an ancient exercise for cultivating physical and spiritual health. The demonstration

covered the basic principles and concepts of Tai Chi following the Yang Style short form. For more information regarding potential Tai Chi classes and/or demonstrations, please contact John Webster at 301-891-7289 or email at johnw@takomagov.org. (*Recreation*)

WAU Students Help Out: On Wednesday, September 28, over 30 students from Washington Adventist University joined the Public Works Garden Division in planting 20 trees and removing invasive plants on the hillside behind the Community Center. This is part of an effort to plant trees and remove invasive shrubs in public spaces. The students also assisted the Recreation Department by cleaning the City Bus and other vehicles used by the Department. (*Public Works and Recreation*)

Recreation Department Participates in Play Day: On Saturday, September 24, The Recreation Department supported the 3rd annual Play Day in Takoma Park. The Public Works Department had an awesome display of trucks – Dump Truck, Trash Truck, Street Sweeper and Loader. Participants had a great time hopping in and out of the trucks and beeping the horns. The Recreation Department's Double Dutch team performed, new Zumba instructor Kim Clark offered a free, energizing Zumba demonstration, and there were street hockey demonstrations on the tennis courts. A playful time was had by all. (*Recreation*)

Police in Training: On September 27-29, various sworn personnel attended 2011 Rifle Range qualifications at the MSP Rifle Range at Liberty Reservoir. (*Police*)

Crime Report: The most recent Takoma Park Police Weekly Crime Report (September 23-29, 2011) may be viewed online at:
http://tppolice.blogspot.com/2011/09/takoma-park-police-department-weekly_29.html. (*Police*)

Traffic Enforcement: Officers conducted at least 117 traffic stops, which resulted in citations, two vehicle impounds, one Driving Under the Influence (DUI) arrest from traffic and six arrests from traffic. During September 23-28, 2011, the following details were completed:

September 23, 2011

- Maple Avenue & Lincoln Avenue (stop sign enforcement) – conducted a two-hour detail and issued 10 State citations and two warnings.
- Maple Avenue & Sherman Avenue (stop sign enforcement) – conducted a 30-minute detail and issued three State citations.

September 26, 2011

- New Hampshire Avenue & Merwood Drive (speeding) - conducted a 30-minute detail and issued one State citation and one warning.
- East West Highway at Kentland Avenue (speeding) - conducted a 60-minute detail and issued three State citations.
- Ethan Allen Avenue at Jackson Avenue (no right turn) - conducted a 30-minute detail and issued two State citations.
- Ethan Allen Avenue at Jackson Avenue (no right turn) - conducted a 60-minute detail and issued 12 State citations.

September 27, 2011

- Takoma Langley Crossroads Area (tag reader/suspensions) – conducted a detail at various times and issued three State citations.
- Ethan Allen Avenue at Jackson Avenue (no right turn) - conducted a 60-minute detail and issued five State citations and one warning.
- Ethan Allen Avenue at Jackson Avenue (no right turn) - conducted a 60-minute detail and issued five State citations and three warnings.

September 28, 2011

- Maple Avenue & Philadelphia Avenue (red light enforcement) - conducted a 30-minute detail and issued no citations or warnings.

(Police)

Traffic Officer Stats for the Week of September 23-29 (Corporal Michelle Holmes):

Calls for service: 2

State Citations issued: 60

City tickets: 4

Reports: 1

Safety Equipment Repair Orders: 3

Warnings: 7

Training: 4.5 hours

Field Investigative Reports: 8

(Police)